with South Africa and Israel, commercial alliances for promoting trade with US and European Union and regional initiatives for trade with SAARC countries resulting in operationalising SAPTA.

(e) There has been a steady and sustained growth in India's exports.

[English]

Income Tax Tribunals

1255. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Income Tax Tribunals set up in the country and location thereof;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to open an Income Tax Tribunal at Bangalore;

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) the details of other places where new Income Tax Tribunals are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) The Income-tax Appellate Tribunal has at present 38 benches at 19 stations around the country. The details of these benches are as follows :

	Name of Station	No. of Benches
1.	Mumbai	5
2.	Delhi	5
3.	Calcutta	5
4.	Madras	4
5.	Ahmedabad	3
6.	Nagpur	1
7.	Pune	1
8.	Allahabad	2
9.	Amritsar	1
10.	Chandigarh	1
11.	Indore	1
12.	Jabalpur	1
13.	Jaipur	1
14.	Cuttack	1
15.	Guwahati	1
16.	Patna	1
17.	Bangalore	1
18.	Cochin	1
19.	Hyderabad	2

(b) to (d) Government has recently decided to establish 15 new benches of the Tribunal at the following places :

	Name of Station	No. of Benches
1.	Rajkot	1
2.	Agra	1
3.	Bangalore	2
4.	Mumbai	5
5.	Chandigarh	1
6.	New Delhi	2
7	Jodhpur	1
8.	Panaji	1
9.	Vishakhapatnam	1

Exemption to Cyclone Relief Goods

1256. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued orders exempting cyclone relief goods from duties;

(b) if so, whether this decision has helped in getting good response from exporters for relief and rehabilitation to these cyclone victims in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the total number of goods imported and donated for the relief and rehabilitation of this cyclone affected people of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether some more concessions are being provided so that more relief comes to the people of Andhra Pradesh who are affected by the cyclone; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has issued notification Nos. 2/97-Customs and 1/97-Central Excise both dated 15.1.1997 providing full exemption from customs and excise duties to goods imported/manufactured and donated for the relief and rehabilitation of the cyclone affected people of Andhra Pradesh. Both these exemptions are valid upto 30.6.1997.

(b) and (c) No data is available in this regard.

(d) and (e) Since the notifications grant full exemption from both customs and excise duties on all goods donated for the relief and rehabilitation of the cyclone victims, the question of giving further concessions in customs and excise duties does not arise.

Long Term Loans to Bihar, U.P. and Delhi

1257. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of long term loan given to the Bihar,